

Staff involved Assistant Headteacher/Subject Leader Leanne Quarry-Ellis and English Link Governor Lyn Eaton were joined by Jane Fagan Deputy Headteacher.

Key discussion points

- Year 1 phonics screening tests are currently in the process of being administered so outcome data will be considered at the next meeting along with KS2 SAT outcomes which will be available soon.
- It was decided earlier in the year to continue with KS1 SATs although they are no longer a statutory requirement.
- Writing has been a high priority across the school this year and will continue into next year. Staff have now developed a deeper understanding of the issues that can affect children's performance, are better able to identify gaps to be addressed and their judgements are becoming more confident and refined. The daily focus on SPAG will continue for all children with refinements for those with SEND such as the 'watch list' to ensure timely and appropriate support/interventions when books are checked.
- Another focus this year has been in respect of those children who are or are close to achieving GD to ensure they get the appropriate support/ interventions to achieve this. During the recent LA moderation in which the school were invited to participate, all the staff judgements were endorsed by the moderation team including 5 children who were judged to be secure at greater depth in Writing.
- As referred to in the last report (February 2024) the agreed process to ensure further improvements this year has been refined with all the children in each year group now ranked to allow more accurate focus on which children need support/interventions. This should help produce improved outcomes when this year's data is made available in a few weeks' time. Some staff struggled with incorporating this time consuming task into their routines but this was addressed through engaging the staff in professional dialogue. In future there will also be a focus on children effectively editing their own work.
- Reading remains a school strength with this year's outcomes positively anticipated.
- Opportunities for children to talk about their Reading and practise their Writing will continue next year, as will children's immersion and enjoyment in Reading and Writing. The different interests of boys and girls and under represented groups will continue to be considered when selecting books/resources and making curriculum content choices to ensure inclusion and interest for all. Additional new reading books have recently been purchased to replenish the school's supply.
- The AHT/SL is confident about both staffing and morale at this point in the year. While some staff may be nervous about change and particularly the prospect of mixed ability groups, leaders do not think this will constitute a barrier to overcoming any initial problems that may be encountered. The SLT and middle leaders are all aware of the importance of maintaining the staff's well being through talking with and listening to staff in respect of suggested adjustments and exercising flexibility where appropriate (eg completing PPA at home).
- Parents/carers have been and will continue to be actively encouraged to foster a love of, and passion for reading, in their children.
- Enrichment activities and particularly those with a focus on improving SPAG (and Maths) have been attended this year and these will continue with some minor adjustments. The structure and content of sessions is regularly monitored to ensure satisfactory representation from those children who need most support.
- Books will continue to be checked for good presentation which is a 'non negotiable' while additionally sentence accuracy continues to be embedded.
- Governors may be aware that there will be a new Subject Leader for English in September (Ruth Day).
- **Next visit** during term 1 2024-5 ie September/October 2024.